David C. McCarthy 133 Ashburnham Street Fitchburg MA 01420

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Renata Hesse Trial Attorney Antitrust Division Department of Justice 601 D Street NW, Suite 1200 Washington DC 20530

Dear Attorney Hesse:

Count me as a consumer and citizen who wants to see the government's case against Microsoft Corporation ended. Thirty million dollars later, and we come to discover that this was all really about some zealous attorneys trying to get the government to pick sides in the high-tech marketplace. One doesn't need to be an expert at antitrust law to know that Microsoft has not had any monopolistic stranglehold on the information industry; just walk into any Office Depot, or open any newspaper and see the variety, the competition and the falling prices. There is no cause for government action here.

And then comes the likes of ProComp, AOL Time Warner, Sun and Oracle, all looking to have the federal government carve out special rules and conditions to favor them. This is not what the free-market system is all about. It's time to end the feeding frenzy, and end the court case.

I see that the Justice Department is finally looking to settle the case, and that Microsoft has agreed. Please, let's just do it. I urge the judge to accept this settlement, and we can all get out of this sooner rather than later.